

ALVI'S DRIFT

# FLAGSHIP RANGE VERREAUX PINOTAGE 2019

This dark, ruby-coloured wine boasts forthcoming aromas of vanilla, liquorice root and hints of spice, complemented by rich notes of brambleberry, black cherry and plum. Medium- to full-bodied, this wine's gripping tannins are beautifully balanced with the fruit following through on the palate, lingering tantalisingly on the palate. This remarkable wine has great ageing potential and will benefit from careful cellar maturation of 8-10 years.

## ON THE VINES

With an ideal Mediterranean microclimate, an abundance of soil diversity and water from the life-giving Breede River, the Alvi's Drift vineyards are ideally positioned for producing remarkable wines of unique character and complexity.

Despite a late start to winter, this vintage benefitted from good rainfalls. Spring brought some unusual weather, with both a brief heatwave and a cold snap during October, but otherwise it was a great vintage. The pinotage grape harvest was slightly larger than other recent harvests, showing good acidity, sugar and an elegance which boded well for creating a superb wine. Grapes were healthy, full and ripe, with exceptionally good colour and intense flavour.

## IN THE CELLAR

To create this wine, crushed pinotage grapes are transferred to our winery's traditional, open-top concrete fermentation tanks, built by our family patriarch almost a century ago. During fermentation, to increase skin-to-juice contact, the labour-intensive punch-down method (French: pigéage) is applied by hand, up to eight times daily.

Juice is left to soak for a few days to extract optimum flavour and colour from the skins. After fermentation, the wine matures in a combination of new French and American oak barrels for 22 months.

+27 (0)21 905 0653

wine@alvisdrift.co.za

www.alvisdrift.co.za



## CULTIVAR INFORMATION

100% Pinotage

## ANALYSIS

Alcohol:	13.6%
Residual Sugar:	4.6 g/l
Acidity:	5.6 g/l
pH:	3.5

## PAIRING SUGGESTION

Enjoy this wine with roast venison, grilled steak or duck dishes.

## HERITAGE

The mighty Verreaux's eagle (Aquila verreauxii) is a large predatory bird with a wingspan of up to 2.3 m, native to sub-Saharan Africa.

A common sight in the skies above Alvi's Drift, this rare and magnificent eagle with its unmistakable jet-black colouration and distinct white "V" on its back has a unique hunting technique, hunting primarily from a high soar by stooping on its quarry. Perceived as a threat to livestock, this spectacular bird has become one of the most persecuted bird species in the world.

At Alvi's Drift, we are actively taking steps to create an environment that will encourage and protect the Verreaux's eagle and other eagle species on our farm. Alvi's Drift honours this legendary South African bird with a unique South African wine that soars above all others.

## AWARDS

2021 Great Gold Catavinum World Wine & Spirits Competition Spain | 2021 Top 100 National Wine Challenge / Top 100 | 2021 Double Platinum National Wine Challenge / Top 100 | 2021 Great Gold International Wine & Spirits Awards Spain